

A LEVEL

Exam board AQA

PHYSICS

SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Grade 6 or above in GCSE physics (separate science) or grades 6-6 or above in combined science: trilogy **and**
- Grade 6 or above in GCSE mathematics **and**
- Students must successfully complete a bridging unit in physics over summer.

It is not necessary to study A Level maths to be successful in A Level physics however, we would **strongly recommend** that students take A Level mathematics.

COURSE CONTENT

A-Level physics is a rewarding and popular subject, which appeals to students who have enjoyed and succeeded in GCSE science subjects.

Year 12	Year 13
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Particles and radiation• Electricity• Waves• Mechanics and materials• Further mechanics and thermal physics• Fields and their consequences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nuclear physics• Option topic, either Engineering or Physics option (currently Astro)

Practical skills and analysis are taught in separate weekly practical lessons and examined in the theory exam at the end of the course.

On choosing physics you will need to choose either the engineering or the physics option (which is currently astronomy). The options are designed to support you in your next career / study steps. The engineering unit has a high maths content but is ideally suited to those considering any engineering discipline. The physics option will be either the astrophysics, medical physics or turning points and will support students moving on to study the sciences. The physics option is decided upon by staff availability.

EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS

Three 2 hour papers. Questions will include long and short answers and multiple choice.

Practical skills will be assessed as part of the course, leading to a practical endorsement on the final certificate.

SKILLS, LINKS AND PROGRESSION

Although some A Level physicists go on to read for a physics degree, most follow courses in astrophysics, engineering, medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine. In all these disciplines physics is an important foundation. (Note: the option choice is rarely a determining factor in higher education course admission; it can however help in the application process).

CONTACT

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